PRESIDENT DISCUSSES STATE OF COLLEGE

"The hard times of the past few years gave us an opportunity to show that Saginaw Valley State College is an institution of choice. Students want to come here."

The annual "State of the College" message delivered by President Jack M. Ryder on February 7 listed both accomplishments and difficulties SVSC has experienced in recent months. Ryder began by calling attention to several achievements, including the continued enrollment growth in 1984-85. He said SVSC has become a preferred institution not only because of its location, but also because of the reputation of its faculty and programs. He cited recognition of various faculty members who have been selected as Fulbright lecturers, or honored by the Michigan Association of Governing Boards, the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters, and the SVSC Landee Award committee.

Other positive factors Ryder listed included SVSC's enviable record for marshalling private support for its programs. He said that more than half of SVSC's physical plant has come from private contributions, and that private sources will continue to play a significant role in the college's future development.

He noted that, since the arrival of Dr. Ralph Coppola, the Office of Sponsored Programs has assisted in the preparation of over 25 grant proposals. "This represents a very substantial increase in activity and promises a much higher level of support."

As evidence of growth in academic areas, Ryder pointed to new programs in electrical and mechanical engineering, and to the master's degree program in political science/criminal justice.

Among the more optimistic topics covered was a progress report on construction of I.F. 2. "In his most recent budget recommendation to the Legislature, Governor Blanchard recommended funds for the operation of I.F. 2 beginning in April, 1986 and also the remodeling of Wickes Hall. I hope we will be able to use some of the buildings by next January." Ryder compared the science laboratory, office and classroom facilities that will be available in the new instructional complex with those currently being used. "These new facilities will make possible a quantum leap in the quality of our instruction, for they far exceed the facilities which have been available until now." He said several college departments have been working with the National Science Foundation in an effort to obtain federal matching funds to stretch I.F. 2 equipment budgets. Some equipment will be purchased for immediate use and later moved into the new building.
During the current year, Ryder said, instructional supplies and equipment budgets were increased by 7 percent, double the increase for administrative support units. In addition, research support is provided for typing of promising, publishable manuscripts, and five new IBM PC's have been ordered for use by faculty secretaries. He said these and other increases in support for instruction have resulted from the comprehensive and continuous planning process involving every member of the academic community, and he encouraged all employees to read the "Goals for 1988-89 & Objectives for 1985-86" recently distributed campus-wide.

As part of the continuing planning process, Ryder said he would announce within two weeks a schedule of program reviews for support units. The first three units to be studied will be athletics, evening services, and placement and continuing education. Review committees will include representatives of faculty, staff and external community, "with consultative help as needed."

Externally, Ryder said there is increasing recognition of the value of higher education. "Leaders of our state see Michigan's colleges and universities as the base of an economic and social revival." He said the recent report by the Commission on the Future of Higher Education reflects the belief that the people of Michigan are ready to invest in higher education. "I believe the support is a result of the common recognition that we live in a world which provides few opportunities for those who are uneducated." He cited figures showing that college graduates earn 33 percent more in a lifetime than people with high school diplomas only, and are three times less likely to be unemployed.

"Insofar as we continue to serve those who need us, we can expect to receive an increased level of support," he said. Ryder pointed out, however, that increases in state appropriations in the past two years have not been sufficient to solve all fiscal problems for higher education in general or SVSC in particular. "I intend to remind legislators and members of the Governor's staff that Saginaw Valley State College continues to suffer the effects of serious underfunding. The underfunding is, in part, a function of our excellent enrollment record." Ryder said the result of across-the-board appropriations adjustments plus rising SVSC enrollment is that state support per full time equivalent student at SVSC is about 30 percent lower than support in other Michigan colleges. "In the days and weeks ahead, I shall continue to take our message to the legislature in hopes that our needs and our record of high performance will be recognized and rewarded."

He asked the campus community to rededicate itself to realizing the goal of student achievement. He reminded the audience of the coming site visit by the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges team, "If the self-study leads to long term accreditation, both our present students and our alumni will benefit." He said, however, that the self-study process should be forthright in recognizing problems as well as achievements. "Because all institutions face some difficulties, we should be willing to admit, but not overemphasize, our own problems."

Following Ryder's presentation, he answered questions from the audience. Queries came regarding efforts to increase opportunities for minorities, women and foreign students; plans to improve faculty retention through increased incentives; securing support for research; constraints on the authority of the presidency; and plans for adding hockey to the athletic programs, as reported by the Saginaw News. Ryder stated emphatically that "in the foreseeable future there are no plans to add hockey as a varsity sport. Support and enhancement of academic programs is our number one priority."

"A ROSE IS A ROSE" OR IS IT?

Campus dining service has some bad news and some good news. For the past nine years they have delivered Valentine's Day roses to offices across campus. Their supplier informed them that severe weather this year has delayed production of roses, making them scarce and extremely expensive.

In an effort to continue the February 14 tradition, carnations will be substituted for roses this week. "Remember, the point of it all is that you are showing someone you care," said John Curry. "The good news is that they will cost only $.75, instead of $2.75 each."

To order a carnation for any of your coworkers, call Betty Papajesk at extension 4252. Orders must be prepaid and placed by 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 13.
FRIDAY IS PIZZA NIGHT

Campus Dining Service operates an "Itza Pizza" program through the snack bar in the evenings. A 14" pizza is $3.95, a 12" is $2.95, and a 10" is $2. Extra items cost $.50 for a large pizza, $.35 for a medium, and $.25 for a small. Four free 14 oz. pops are included with a large, two with a medium, and one with a small pizza. As a special for faculty and staff, orders can be picked up at 4:30 p.m. on Fridays. Present this article to receive $.50 off the price of a large pizza, or $.25 off a medium or small size. This offer ends Friday, February 22. John Curry asks, "Why cook on Friday night when you can get a pizza to go?" To order, call ext. 4254.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

--The fifth annual Career Exploration Day will be Tuesday, February 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Employers representing some 40 companies will be at SVSC to share information with students. This is an excellent time for your students to meet employers and receive answers to relevant questions. Workshops will be offered Wednesday and Thursday, February 13 and 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and again at 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Topics discussed will include resume writing, job search and interviewing techniques, and more. Both workshops and Career Day will be held in lower level Doan Center. For details, call ext. 4070.

--Black History Month activities continue on Wednesday, February 13 with a poetry reading by June Rice in the SVSC theatre at 7:30 p.m. Gospel choirs from Delta College, Saginaw and Buena Vista high schools will join her. A film, titled "Black-American Achievements," will be shown Thursday, February 14 at 7:00 and again at 9:00 p.m. On Monday, February 18, "The Mighty Clouds of Joy Movie" will be screened at 7:00 p.m. Both films are scheduled in lower level Doan Center. A fashion show is set for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20 in lower level Doan Center. Tickets for a February 21 banquet must be purchased in advance from Doris Parker at ext. 4206.

--The Scheduling Office reminds campus events planners to submit Advance Scheduling forms by Friday, February 15. Call ext. 4348 for more information.

--The Valley Film Society will screen "Alsimo and the Condor" on Friday, February 15 at 7:45 p.m. in the Wickes lecture theatre. Admission is by pro-rated membership. For details, call ext. 4303.

--Dr. George Eastland will present "Life in Britain" on Tuesday, February 19 at 4:00 p.m. in the Wickes Hall faculty lounge. Admission is free. For more information, call ext. 4315.

--The Salad Bar Concert Series continues on Tuesday, February 19 in Doan Mall. Sean Ryan will sing Irish folk songs between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The concert is free. An all-you-can-eat salad bar will be available for $1, or you can bring your lunch. For details call ext. 4260.

--A $2 discount on Ice Capades tickets is available through Campus Activities. A group of 25 or more is needed for the offer to be good. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, February 20. Call ext. 4260 for information.

--Your students may be interested in a trip to Daytona Beach, Florida over Spring Break. Deadline for signing up is Wednesday, February 20 at 2:00 p.m. Campus Activities has more details at ext. 4260.

--The Jazz Ensemble will welcome Dr. Billy Howell, trombonist, for their February 25 concert. The show is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the SVSC theatre. Tickets are $2 for the general public, $1.50 for students and senior citizens. For reservations, call ext. 4159.

--Orders are being taken by the Bookstore for academic regalia for Commencement. Measurements can be done in the Bookstore between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please submit orders no later than Monday, February 25. For order forms, contact Betty Wineland at ext. 4277.

--The first show in the Bay Arts Council Lenten Mini-Series will be Wednesday, February 27 at 12:12 p.m. The "Glenn Blues" jazz band will perform, and lunch may be purchased at the church. The series is presented at the First Presbyterian Church, 805 Center Ave., Bay City. Admission is free. Additional shows are scheduled throughout March and in April. For more information, call Nancy Wieland at 893-0343.
A new membership organization titled "Friends of Tobico" has been established for Bay County's Tobico Marsh and adjacent Jennison Nature Center currently being operated by SVSC and Delta College. Funds from the membership drive will be used to continue the center's natural history interpretive talks and walks, and establish new programs. Tax deductible charter memberships include $100 for benefactors; $50, supporters; $15, family membership; and $10 for individuals. For information, call 667-0717.

ACROSS CAMPUS

---Dr. Kurt Grebe, a volunteer for Friendship Houses and Fresh Start, has been awarded the "Vital Action Citizen Award" by the Volunteer Action Center of Bay County, Inc. Grebe has been associated with the nursing advisory committee of Delta College and SVSC.

---Dr. Peter Shiu, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, had a paper accepted for publication in the "Caribbean Journal of Mathematics" (Vol. 3, No. 2). The paper is titled: "On the Generalized Euclidean Algorithm in the Ring of Integral Matrices."

---An article by Dr. Rosalie Riegel Troester, assistant professor of English, will appear in the next issue of "Sage: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women." The journal is published by Sage Women's Educational Press, Inc. (SWEP) of Atlanta, Georgia. SAGE Subscription information is available by contacting SWEP in Atlanta at P.O. Box 4274.

HIGH FIVE

The SVSC men's indoor track team prepared for Saturday's NAIA District 23 meet with several NAIA national qualifying performances at Ypsilanti last week. Robert LeMuel finished fourth in the 3,000 meters in 8:26 at the Eastern Michigan Invitational. Mark Moleski also qualified in the 3,000 with an 8:32 time. Other qualifiers included the two-mile relay team of Shawn Butler, Rich Genson, Brad Abendroth and John Bier. Gary Norton finished fifth in the 35-pound weight division, and John Robinson was first. Larry Weaver took second in the pole vault with a 14-6 leap. The sprint relay team of Phil Morrow, Brad King, Troy Harvey and Butler was first with 3:36.6. NAIA Indoor Nationals are February 22-23 in Kansas City.

---SVSC men's and women's basketball teams made a clean sweep in their northern trip last week with victories over Michigan Tech and Lake Superior. They take on Hillsdale at home Thursday before traveling to Grand Valley on Saturday. For the men, the GVSC game will likely decide the conference championship. The women continue to roll up records, with a current total of 46 consecutive regular season wins and 28 in the conference. Sonja Paquin passed the 1,000-point mark Saturday.

EVENTWATCH

Feb. 13 ... Black History: June Rice
Feb. 13 ... Entrepreneurs Club Dinner
Feb. 13 ... Discussion: Soviet Union Trip
Feb. 13-14 ... Career Day Workshop
Feb. 14 ... Black History: Film
Feb. 14 ... M & W BB: SVSC vs. Hillsdale
Feb. 15 ... VFS: "Alsimo and the Condor"
Feb. 17 ... W BB: SVSC vs. NE Illinois
Feb. 18 ... Black History: Film
Feb. 19 ... Lecture: "Life in Britain"
Feb. 19 ... Salad Bar Concert: Sean Ryan
Feb. 19 ... Career Exploration Day

See monthly calendar or call Information Services for times and details.

Free hair cutting was one of many activities at the Health Fair last week. Gloria Hansen said, "People were enjoying themselves and learning at the same time."
February 11, 1985

SVSC’s Board of Control today approved a plan that would increase room and board by $100 for the 1985-86 academic year. Currently, students pay $2,430 per year to live in the residence halls if they select the 21 meals per week plan. Next year they will pay $2,530, an increase of 4.1 percent. Charges for the 15 meal per week plan will rise from $2,348 this year to $2,444 in 85-86. In recommending the new rate structure, Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs Jerry A. Woodcock told the Board that SVSC presently has the fifth least expensive housing costs of Michigan’s 12 public four year colleges and universities with residential units. “We would be seventh least expensive next year even if no other colleges raise their rates,” Woodcock said, adding that it was unlikely other schools would be able to maintain present rates.

The Board also approved a new schedule of miscellaneous room and board rates for summer sessions, conferences, guests, and similar limited uses. All showed modest increases for 1985-86.

President Jack M. Ryder reviewed for the Board information that had been presented to area legislators on Wednesday, February 6. The purpose of meeting with the legislative delegation, Ryder said, was to inform them of underfunding SVSC has experienced, discuss with them the Governor’s budget recommendations for fiscal year 1986, and to ask for their assistance in securing adequate funding for SVSC programs. He used a series of transparencies to illustrate several points about the services SVSC provides and the effect of growing enrollments coupled with across-the-board state allocation adjustments.

A pie chart showed about 75 percent of SVSC’s enrollment comes from the quad-county area made up by Bay, Midland, Saginaw and Tuscola counties, demonstrating SVSC’s regional character. Another pie chart indicated that enrollment is quite evenly distributed among the five academic schools. “Clearly, SVSC has not tried to be all things to all people,” Ryder said.

Most dramatic were graphic comparisons between enrollment patterns at SVSC and the rest of the public college system. While student numbers have declined since 1979 throughout the system, SVSC’s enrollments have continued to climb. A second graph compared state support per fiscal year equivalent student (a calculation for stating enrollments in terms of full time students) at SVSC with the system average. The graph showed SVSC only slightly behind the system average of $2,600 per FYES in 1979. Since SVSC's enrollment growth has not been recognized through increased rates of funding, the gap between support per student at SVSC and the system has continued to widen. "We cannot continue to go on with increased enrollment and not have sufficient support."

Ryder shared with the Board a summary of the budget request SVSC has presented for fiscal year 1986. College administrators are asking for $11,655,050, a figure 33 percent greater than the state's 1985 allocation of $8,749,900. The total includes an increase of $1,161,100 to fund present staff and facilities, plus funding totaling $1,744,050 in "program revision requests." That includes additional money for academic and support computing, added faculty to serve the expanded student body, and start-up money ($919,500) for I.P. 2. Ryder and other executive committee members said their presentation was well received by legislators, and they were hopeful that fiscal needs would be met.
Controller Jim Muladore presented a midyear review of the 1984-85 budget projecting a year-end deficit of $133,000. His report showed revenues to be lower in two categories than estimated when the budget was adopted in August. Lower interest rates are expected to reduce investment and departmental income estimates by $44,705. Since 1984-85 students are carrying smaller credit loads than anticipated, income from tuition will be $158,000 less than the August budget estimate.

Other factors affecting the budget are a faculty contract settlement somewhat over the amount calculated in August and a rollback in undergraduate tuition that left revenues $129,230 lower than projected in the original budget. Offsetting these figures are an estimated $103,618 upward adjustment to unfilled position savings, $100,000 in utility savings, and nearly $40,000 savings expected in supplies, materials and services.

Board member Charles B. Curtiss cautioned administrators that because the report did not require Board approval did not necessarily mean the Board condoned a deficit. President Ryder replied, "Given the circumstances we have done a good job of managing the budget. It is a manageable deficit, but it must be addressed in future years."

In other action, the Board:

-- approved resolutions commending the SVSC 1984 cross country and football teams.

-- listened to a report from Woodcock on the status of plans to add apartment units to campus housing. He said the units are needed to expand the total amount of housing available to SVSC students, and to provide accommodations with kitchen facilities for married students and others. A committee is studying locations and financial feasibility, Woodcock said. Eventually the college hopes to have 80 to 100 apartment units, to be constructed in two phases.

-- heard a report by Dr. Ralph Copolla, director of sponsored programs, showing the status of 23 grant proposals submitted between August 1, 1984 and February 11, 1985. To date, 11 grants totaling $726,282 have been received, and requests totaling $3,348,115 are pending.

-- received a report of winter registration showing 4,544 students carrying 41,398 credits.

-- accepted a personnel report listing three administrative/professional vacancies filled, a promotion, and hiring of a temporary instructor of nursing.

-- greeted Professor Lao An of Shandong University. Professor An is a guest of Dr. Mason Wang, professor of English, and expects to study and lecture at SVSC for a year.

The graph at right compares SVSC appropriations per fiscal year equated student since 1979 with system averages. SVSC data is displayed in the bar at the left in each pair. "C" in last two pairings refers to Governor Blanchard's budget recommendation. "R" denotes SVSC's fiscal 1986 request.